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Operational activities for development

Proposed amendments to the General Regulations of the World Food Programme

Note by the Secretariat

Economic and Social Council decision 2007/220, as contained in document E/2007/INF/2/Add.1

At its 30th meeting, on 12 July 2007, the Economic and Social Council decided to endorse the proposed amendments to the General Regulations of the World Food Programme[1] and recommended them for approval by the General Assembly, as follows:

1. Following the decision taken at its annual session in 2006 to adopt the International Public Sector Accounting Standards, the Executive Board of the World Food Programme endorsed the amendments to article VI, paragraph 2 (b) (viii), and article XIV, paragraph 6 (b), of the General Regulations. In accordance with the provisions contained in article XV of the General Regulations, the Executive Board hereby submits its recommendation, through the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations, the Council of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the Conference of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations for approval by the United Nations General Assembly.

I. Proposed amendments to the General Regulations of the World Food Programme

(a) Article VI, paragraph 2 (b) (viii):

Current text:

"consider the biennial report on inspections and investigations, and take such action thereon as it considers appropriate."

[1] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2007, Supplement No. 16* (E/2007/36), chap. I.

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Amended text:

"consider the annual report of the Inspector General and take such action thereon as it considers appropriate."

(b) Article XIV, paragraph 6 (b):

Current text:

"biennial financial statements of the World Food Programme, together with the report of the External Auditor;"

Amended text:

"annual financial statements of the World Food Programme, together with the report of the External Auditor;"

Subject to the approval of the above amendments, the revised World Food Programme General Regulations shall enter into force on 1 January 2008.

II. Amendments to the General Rules of the World Food Programme

Also subject to the approval of the above amendments, the Executive Board approved revisions of General Rules VI.1 and X.8 hereby presented for information to the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations and the Council of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations.

General Rule VI.1: Strategic plan

Current text:

"The Executive Director shall submit to the annual session of the Board, in the second year of each financial period, a strategic plan that will cover a four-year period, be prepared every two years on a rolling basis and will highlight the main features of the proposed programme of work for the ensuing financial period."

Amended text:

"The Executive Director shall submit to the annual session of the Board, in the second year of each biennium, a strategic plan that will cover two successive Biennia. The strategic plan shall be prepared every two years on a rolling basis and will highlight the main features of the proposed programme of work for the first biennium."

General Rule X.8: Availability of resources

Current text:

"The Executive Director shall ensure that development projects submitted to the Board for approval, and development projects and country programme activities approved under the Executive Director's delegated authority, can be implemented within estimated available resources. Resource availability shall take into account pledges and contributions expected for the current financial period, as well as resources which can reasonably be expected to be contributed during the two subsequent financial periods, including resources which could be made available by the recipient government itself or by bilateral donors."

Amended text:

"The Executive Director shall ensure that development projects submitted to the Board for approval, and development projects and country programme activities approved under the Executive Director's delegated authority, can be implemented within estimated available resources. Resource availability shall take into account pledges and contributions expected for the current biennium, as well as resources which can reasonably be expected to be contributed during the two subsequent bienniums, including resources which could be made available by the recipient government itself or by bilateral donors."